

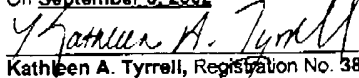
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: ISPH-0591  
Inventors: Crooke and Graham  
Serial No.: 09/917,963  
Filing Date: July 30, 2001  
Examiner: Sean McGarry  
Group Art Unit: 1645  
Title: Antisense Modulation of Microsomal  
Triglyceride Transfer Protein Expression

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On September 3, 2002

  
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
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Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is being  
amended and claim 3 canceled to facilitate the search and  
examination of this invention.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 3.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted  
to the triglyceride transfer protein